

Amendments To The Specification:

Please replace the title with the following amended title:

**THREADED CONNECTIONS
AND SYSTEMS METHODS FOR FORMING THREADED CONNECTIONS**

Please replace paragraph [0026] with the following amended paragraph:

[0026] Threads 12 of first component 10, and threads 22 of second component 20, can be formed by various machining techniques that enable the synchronization of the timing of the thread profiles. Sleeve 30 does not require any specialized machining processes because timing is not required. This fabrication process ensures that there is essentially no gap between mating face 14 of first component 10 and mating face 24 of second component 20 after connection sleeve 30 is screwed into place. As illustrated in FIGS. 1 – 5, but particularly FIG. 1, sleeve or connection collar 30 includes an internal straight thread (preferably a single continuous thread) such that when first component 10 is in pre-defined axial alignment with component 20, collar 30 threads continuously from the first component 10 onto the second component 20. A straight thread is a thread such as commonly used with bolts or other load-bearing threaded connections, as opposed to a thread that is tapered to provide a seal such as commonly used in threaded pipe connections.